least 80% homology, and even more preferably at least 90% homology with a peptide sequence capable of being encoded by at least a functional part of the reference nucleotide sequence as defined above.

Page 15, between lines 20 and 21, insert and center:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Page 17, between lines 19 and 20, insert and center:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Page 19, lines 20-23, delete the current paragraph and insert therefor:

/note="splice junction (splice donor site ATCCAAAGTG-GTGAGTAATA (SEQ ID NO: 36) and splice acceptor site CTTTTTTCAG-ATGGGAAACG (SEQ ID NO: 37) clone RG083M05, GenBank accession AC000064)"

At the end of the application, please replace the present Sequence Listing with the attached paper and computer-readable Sequence Listing.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 15-17 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please replace claims 1-4, 7-14 and 18-20 as follows:

1. (Amended) Nucleic material of the retroviral genomic type, in an isolated or purified state, whose genome comprises a reference nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 1 to 15, their complementary sequences, and their equivalent sequences.

2. (Amended) Nucleic material of the retroviral genomic type, in an isolated or purified state, whose genome comprises a reference nucleotide sequence, encoding any polypeptide exhibiting, for any contiguous sequence of at least 30 amino acids, at least 80% identity with a peptide sequence capable of being encoded by at least a functional part of a